

As you may know, [Arizona enacted a law](#) in April 2010 to give local law enforcement officers the ability to verify U.S. citizenship during any lawful police work (such as traffic stops) by asking for identification if they had reasonable suspicion that a person was an illegal alien. The law would also make it a state crime to be in the country illegally and prohibit sanctuary cities in Arizona. The Obama Administration and the ACLU filed lawsuits against the Arizona law, and in April 2011 the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled against the State of Arizona. I disagree with their decision.

The state of Arizona has appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, asking the court to overturn the Ninth Circuit's decision. This month I joined 58 other members of Congress in signing a [friend of the court brief](#) urging the Supreme Court to consider the case and uphold Arizona's law. I signed a similar brief last year when the case was before the Ninth Circuit. I hope that the Supreme Court will find Arizona's law constitutional and check an Administration that seems more interested in stopping the enforcement of federal law than stopping those who violate it. Congress has repeatedly authorized states to enforce federal immigration laws, and I believe the people of Arizona should be given the opportunity to do just that.

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